

## **KanCare Expansion: Just the Facts**

## KanCare expansion will benefit children and the schools they attend.

Though many children already have access to KanCare, research has shown that KanCare expansion can benefit children and the schools they attend. Parents, teachers and caregivers who otherwise would fall in the coverage gap could gain access to affordable health care through KanCare expansion, and the benefits reach far beyond just the individual, benefitting the children and educational system as well.

- The Educational Services industry is one of the top five industries in Kansas that would be most impacted by Medicaid expansion. More than 17,000 teachers, teaching assistants and other school staff would gain access to affordable health care under KanCare expansion.
- States that have adopted Medicaid expansion have seen a greater reduction in school dropout rates than non-expansion states.
- A study in the Journal of School Health from August 2020 calculates that if all non-expansion states adopted Medicaid expansion, the country would see a decrease of more than 92,500 school drop outs.
- The health and development of children depends on parents' access to care. Mental health for parents can improve the social-emotional development of children, which allows children to do better in school.
- When parents have health coverage, children are more likely to have health coverage. When adults in a household became eligible for Medicaid, children in the household saw a 5% rise in coverage, even if the children were already eligible for Medicaid.
- Children covered by Medicaid are more likely to graduate from high school and college than those who are uninsured, and tend to have higher wages as a working adult.

Expanding KanCare benefits not only Kansas children, but also their parents, teachers, and the school staff who care for them and guide them each day. It's time for us to prioritize the health of our children and those in their school system. It's time to expand KanCare!



## **Expand KanCare: How You Can Help**

Join the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas at expandkancare.com

To share stories about the coverage gap, email <a href="mailto:marissa@expandkancare.com">marissa@expandkancare.com</a>, or submit your stories on our website at <a href="mailto:expandkancare.com/share-your-story">expandkancare.com/share-your-story</a>.

Sign our petition to urge candidates to support KanCare expansion at <u>expandkancare.com/get-involved</u>.

To volunteer to collect petition signatures or to learn more about how you can be a KanCare expansion advocate, email <a href="mailto:taylor@expandkancare.com">taylor@expandkancare.com</a>.

Use #ExpandKanCare and #ksleg to promote KanCare expansion on social media.

On Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ExpandKanCare/">www.facebook.com/ExpandKanCare/</a>

On Twitter: @ExpandKanCare

On TikTok: @AllianceforaHealthyKS

Reach out to the faith leaders, business leaders, and leaders of community organizations that you know and ask them to join the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas. More info at <a href="mailto:expandkancare.com/who-we-are">expandkancare.com/who-we-are</a>.